

FRANK KRATOVIL, JR.
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October 1, 2009

The Honorable William C. Early
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 3
EPA Region 3 Regional Office
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

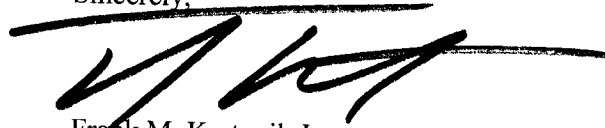
Dear Mr. Early:

The Town of Greensboro, Maryland has recently submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency a report detailing their exhaustive efforts to comply with the Buy/Made in America provision in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The Town proposes to use ARRA funding to replace a Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) at its wastewater treatment plant with a Geo-Reactor, but has been unable to locate an American manufacturer for key equipment needed for this project. I am writing today to convey my support for the Greensboro wastewater treatment upgrade project and to urge an expedited review of the report so that the town can meet an upcoming deadline to finalize its contract submission to the State of Maryland.

I understand the intent of the Buy/Made in America provision within the ARRA, however I also understand the need for flexibility in cases where domestic suppliers simply don't exist for otherwise worthy and much-needed projects. The town of Greensboro has done an extensive search to attempt to comply with this provision, directly contacting eight (8) companies that make similar type products and searching exhaustively for additional options. They have concluded that no American company is able to produce a product which is needed for this project.

The Town of Greensboro, simply put, cannot move forward with this important ARRA-funded environmental project without a waiver of the Buy American clause. I urge you to expedite your technical review of the town's report, as they face an October 30 deadline for submitting final documentation to the State of Maryland. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my Chief of Staff, Tim McCann, at (202) 225-5311. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Frank M. Kratovil, Jr.

CC:

Hon. Sheri Wilson, Secretary, Maryland Department of the Environment
David A. Spencer, Mayor of Greensboro
David Kibler, Town Manger